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FRIENDSHIP NOT WHAT IT ONCE WAS: SURVEY

ONCE BORDERING OFFICIAL BFF STATUS, CANADA SEEMS TO NOW BE DRIFTING APART FROM FACEBOOK PAGE 16

Slip sliding away

That's what's happening today: Ottawa is an icy danger zone, but it'll be cleared away, city did say PAGE 3

We'll fix you up for free, but only if you play nice

Doctors in South Sudan offer free eye surgery on the condition that enemies sit down and talk PAGE 14

Ottawa Police Sgt. Steve Desjourdy walks out of a disciplinary hearing earlier this week to determine whether a 2008 incident in which he cut the bra and shirt off a female prisoner and let her sit topless in urine soaked pants for three hours, amounted to discreditable conduct under the Police Services Act. TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO

Cop grilled over prisoner treatment

Proceedings.
Desjourdy under fire over inconsistent testimony in 2008 cellblock incident

TREVOR GREENWAY
trevor.greenway@metronews.ca

A cop facing professional standards proceedings after he let a female prisoner sit topless in a cell with soiled pants for more than three hours never mentioned he feared she'd kill herself, at least not when he was helping prosecutors pursue assault charges against her during her trial in 2010.

Sgt. Steve Desjourdy, who cut the woman's shirt and bra off with a pair of scissors in a cellblock in 2008 as she struggled with police, faced a barrage of questions over the apparent inconsistency between his testimony this week and his silence on the matter at the woman's trial.

Desjourdy was acquitted of sexual assault in April, but now faces an internal hearing to determine if his actions amounted to discreditable conduct under the Police Services Act.

Crown lawyer Bob Houston grilled Desjourdy Wednesday over why, if he was so concerned about the woman's safety, was the threat of suicide never documented — not to police, prosecutors or even written down in his notes.

"You're testimony you gave three years ago does not mention one single thing about your concern about her safety, in particular, your belief that she was suicidal for the reason of the delay in giving a blue suit," fired Houston.

Desjourdy said his 2010 testimony "wasn't expressed properly," but Houston fired right back: "It wasn't expressed at all, sir. You didn't even talk about it."

Desjourdy's 2010 testimony speaks of other administrative duties as the woman, who cannot be named, sat naked in the cell for so long, tasks including serving breakfast to other prisoners, getting prisoners ready to be transported to court and other paper work. Desjourdy said the officers did the other duties first and got to the female prisoner later, but he now says she wasn't given clothing for safety reasons.

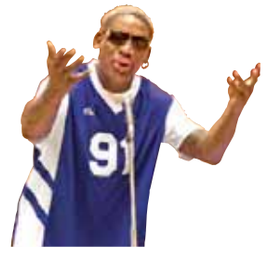
"I felt there was a safety risk," Desjourdy said. "I wanted to observe her behaviour and once she calmed down and showed signs of going to sleep, she was provided with a blue suit."

Defense lawyer Michael Edelson didn't have much time to fire back, but used what time he did have to illustrate Desjourdy's notes, although lacking details of suicidal threats, were signed off by superior officer Staff Sgt. Richard Keindel.

Both Edelson and Houston will submit closing arguments Thursday. If found guilty, Desjourdy could face a demotion to constable.

Hap-py birth-day, Mr. Dictator

He's no Marilyn, and Kim Jong Un is no Kennedy, but Dennis Rodman did his best serenading his North Korean friend on his special day PAGE 9



Fatal bird flu case in Alta. the first in North America

Health officials say incident was isolated, low risk PAGE 10

Design trends 2014: Bigger and bolder

This year likes its paint warm and its carpets loud: Metro rounds up the latest design trends PAGE 23

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Police confirm Aylmer deaths were homicides

Amanda Trottier and Travis Votour
FACEBOOK

Amanda Trottier and Travis Votour were murdered at their home, Gatineau Police confirmed Wednesday.

Although it was apparent that the Aylmer couple was murdered at 158 Terrasse Eardley, police initially only called the crime suspicious after finding the bodies Monday at about 1 p.m. An autopsy of the bodies in Montreal ruled the deaths as homicides, but Gatineau Police spokesperson Pierre Lanthier said they will not release details about how the young couple died until an arrest is made.

Votour and Trottier, both aged 23, were "known to police," according to a press release. Votour has a criminal record. According to court documents, he was charged with one count of assaulting a police officer and one count of possessing marijuana. He was due to appear in court March 29 of this year. In 2011, he was sentenced to five days in prison for a number of charges including assault, uttering threats, damaging property, and failing to comply with a court condition.

The couple's three-year-old daughter was found safe at the scene, but police will not confirm.

"They took that little angel's mother from her," Trottier's mom, Victoria Lebrasseur, posted on her Facebook page Wednesday. "So hope (there) will be justice."

Although police removed the perimeter around the crime scene, an investigation into the two deaths continues.

LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO

Early snowfall makes for slippery streets and busy work crews

In need of 'a good melt'. Warmer weather expected this weekend may help make city streets less treacherous

DENIS ARMSTRONG
ottawa@metronews.ca

The dangerous layer of ice that's coated the city's 2,000 kilometres of sidewalk should finally be cleared by the weekend when warm weather moves into the region.

An ice storm on Jan. 5 followed by record cold temperatures made the job of clearing all those sidewalks difficult, says Kevin Wylie, the city's long-suffering manager of roads, whose department has had to clear nearly twice the snowfall the capital normally gets.

"If we get a good melt this weekend, we'll have most of the sidewalks under control."

In the meantime, the city will continue sanding and gritting sidewalks and urging pedestrians to walk with caution while on ice.

"This storm was more typical of spring conditions when the snow melts by day, and freezes at night," Wylie said.

"With 125 ploughs covering 2,000 kilometres of sidewalk, we're keeping very busy."

Dealing with the sheer volume of snow has meant that he's already had to start melting snowbanks with machines weeks ahead of schedule.

"We've removed snow twice already, which is unprecedented.

"Normally, we wait until later in the season when it gets warmer and we've had a chance to accumulate snow, but this year we've been hit with twice as much snow : 98.5 cms and counting since November," he said.

Injuries

To date, seven people have sustained injuries on Ottawa's sidewalks, and five have been admitted to hospital.

A man sticks out his arm to balance as he moves west along an ice-covered stretch of sidewalk on Queen Street Wednesday. SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO

Quoted

"I just moved here from Winnipeg and I'm not used to all the ice on the sidewalks. Services in Ottawa are pretty good, but the ice scares me. It's crazy so many people are walking on it, but you do what you have to."

Rose Howard

"The city does a good job preparing and managing storms when they happen, but they're slow cleaning up. Instead of clearing the ice, they need to sand the sidewalks to make them safe. It's surprising."

Christine Paquette

1 NEWS

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War vet pleads guilty to sexual interference of teen

33-year-old carried on relationship with girl, 15. Affair discovered by victim's father after he read texts on her phone

JOE LOFARO
joe.lofaro@metronews.ca

A 33-year-old Canadian Afghanistan war veteran who turned racy Facebook messages with a 15-year-old girl into a sexual relationship pleaded guilty in an Ottawa courtroom Wednesday.

David McDonald was stationed at CFB Borden in the summer of 2012 when he was arrested by Ottawa police.

He pleaded guilty Wednesday to sexual assault, invitation to sexual touching, and sexual interference.

According to an agreed statement of facts, McDonald did a tour in Afghanistan during the fall of 2009.

In the summer of 2009, he met the complainant, whose name is protected by a publication ban, through her father. Their relationship began as a friendly one until one occasion in the beginning of 2011 when he sent the girl a private Facebook message saying his mind "was in the gutter," according to the statement of facts.

When the girl asked him to clarify, he wrote to her that he had "dirty thoughts" about her. The pair exchanged phone numbers in order to communicate through text messages.

The pair sexted between January and August of 2011 before they engaged in oral sex, sometimes in her home while her parents were sleeping.

In May 2012, the girl's father noticed she started to behave differently and was caught shoplifting. While perusing through the trail of lewd messages on her phone, the father discovered his daughter's relationship with his friend.

One month later, Ottawa police executed a search warrant and arrested McDonald.

He is scheduled to return to court in April.

Ice going! City celebrates a century of red and white talent on skates

Figure skaters perform on the skating rink at Rideau Hall during a ceremony celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Figure Skating Championships on Wednesday in Ottawa. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Accused hospital guard denies ever meeting patient

A terminated hospital security guard facing allegations of sexually assaulting a mentally challenged female patient at the Ottawa Hospital in 2010 denied ever meeting the woman and receiving oral sex.

Clinton Russell, 44 — in his second trial after he was convicted last October of sexually assaulting and exploiting a person with a disability in 2011 — faced a series of pointed questions about his denial Wednesday from Crown lawyer Suzanne Schriek.

The court heard Tuesday an 18-year-old woman who alleges Russell forced her to perform oral sex in exchange for four cigarettes and a toonie identified Russell's photo when shown 12 pictures of men during a police interview in January 2012.

"If you have no previous relationship with (the woman) … then I guess your position must be that you have no idea how it is that she would be able to identify you in a photograph?" asked Schriek.

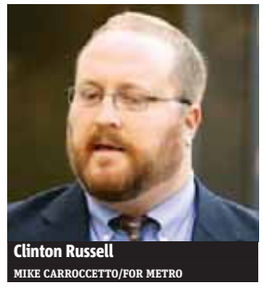
"No, actually I have a feeling as to how she was able to. If she was on D6 as a patient for any length of stay, (given) the amount of times I'm called up there, it's quite likely she would have seen me up there several times," said Russell.

The Crown also pressed him on evidence presented in the first trial in which another patient testified Russell brought her to a room that looked like a hotel and sexually assaulted her. Russell said Wednesday she told him she was lost and looking for her father.

"I had some concerns as to why a male security guard would want to be in a closed conference room that's not on camera with a female person with a disability. Why would you do that?" asked the Crown.

"I hadn't been thinking along those lines at that point," said Russell. "All I was trying to do was determine how I could help this woman."

The trial continues Thursday. JOE LOFARO/METRO



Clinton Russell
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Code for Kids to cultivate love of technology amongst children

Non-profit. Interest growing in kids' tech tutorials in other provinces and Europe

A group of kids learn about HTML code at a Code for Kids event in Montreal in November 2013. COURTESY FACEBOOK

Julian Nadeau has been fiddling with computers since he was 10 years old. Now the computer-science honours student wants to foster a similar passion for technology among today's youth.

That's where the 21-year-old got the idea for Code for Kids, a non-profit organization geared at teaching youth about technology. It will host its fifth event in the Shopify Lounge in Ottawa this Saturday.

"It's to get our future generation ready for the future," said Nadeau, the founder and director of Code for Kids, noting that society "is going completely tech-based."

"Our kids will be more intelligent and more prevalent on the world platform," he said.

This Saturday, there will be two different two-hour Code for Kids events. The first, targeted at youth aged seven to nine, will teach basic JavaScript code that will allow kids to tweak web pages. The second event teaches youth aged nine to 13 about basic electronics, including alarms, using Snap Circuits — electronic toys akin to Lego.

Just as the technology industry is growing, so has Code for Kids. Nadeau said he has had interest from other provinces and even Europe.

"There's not a lot of programs out there, especially on the global scale ... that focus on the 7-to-13 age group," said Nadeau.

The last Code for Kids event was in Montreal and was hosted by Google, which Nadeau says gives "full support" to his initiative. The Canadian Internet Registration Authority is the company's main sponsor.

Nadeau is also a software developer with Shopify, the Ottawa-based e-commerce company, and he's completing his computer science studies at the University of Ottawa.

The Code for Kids Circuits Event will be Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost is $59 and it includes a Snap Circuits kit. The JavaScript event will be the same day from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cost is $29.

TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO

OC Transpo admin workers to get raise

OC Transpo employees who work in administration, support, customer sales and service functions are getting a raise, as an arbitration decision released Wednesday outlines pay increases for this year and retroactive pay for 2012 and 2013.

The agreement between the City of Ottawa and the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 1760, will give workers a 1.94 per cent salary increase for both 2012 and 2013 and a 1.93 per cent raise in 2014. Retro payments will be made within 60 days of the decision. The agreement covers approximately 250 workers.

OC Transpo's headquarters on St. Lauren Avenue. COURTESY GOOGLE STREET VIEW

The decision will also allow the city to use temporary employees for special projects, and expands the amount of time the city can classify them as contract workers to 30 continuous months. Previously the city had been limited to 12 consecutive months before a worker was deemed an employee.

The city can go longer than the 300-month limit, but only if the union agrees upon an extension. Any employee employed for longer than 30 months will become a regular employee.

Uniform allowances were also increased by a nominal amount in the decision.

The city and the ATU still have to work out an agreement with Local 279 (Para Transpo), whose contract expired Dec. 31, 2012.

Agreements with conventional workers at ATU 279 and the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 5500, don't expire until spring of 2016 and 2015 respectively.

TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO

One lucky guy living the dream with big win

Alexander Bill, seen here with daughter Jazmin, 13, was announced the grand prize winner of CHEO's Dream of a Lifetime lottery Wednesday. Bill won the $1.8 million grand-prize package that includes the fully furnished Minto Dream Home with furnishings from La-Z-Boy, $100,000 cash, house cleaning for a year from The Maids Home Services, $5,000 worth of groceries from Farm Boy and a 2014 Lincoln MKS from Jim Keay Ford Lincoln. Runner-up Guy Norwegian won the second-prize package worth $170,000 including $100,000 cash, a Caribbean cruise, a $10,000 gift certificate from Jubilee Fine Jewellers and a 2014 Ford Mustang GT convertible; and Aurel Vuia won $467,977 in the 50/50 Cash Draw. Check for winning tickets at dreamofalifetime.ca. CONTRIBUTED

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Brent Butt is performing his Almost a Movie Star comedy show at Centrepointe Theatre Jan. 30. CONTRIBUTED

Nobody puts Butt in the corner (well, anymore)

Comedy tour. Brent Butt's Almost a Movie Star is at Centrepointe Theatre Jan. 30

Comedian Brent Butt may be as much a comic invention as the characters he played on TV: Corner Gas's loveable leading man Brent Leroy or Hiccups' maligned therapist Stan Dirko.

The former writer and star of two of Canadian television's gamiest comedies is turning his attention to the big screen with his first feature film, a murder-mystery comedy called No Clue, and to make sure it gets noticed when it opens in March, he's touring a new, live standup comedy show, Almost a Movie Star, opening here at Centrepointe Theatre on Jan. 30.

"This is my first standup tour in years, I haven't done it since Corner Gas," Butt says from his home in Vancouver.

"Standup was a way of life for me when I started off in the business. Keeping busy all the time meant I would survive. I guess it worked because I've gotten awful busy since then."

While Butt doesn't have to worry about where the next paycheque is coming from, it's clear he still has that same drive that pushed him on to win four Canadian Comedy Awards.

In No Clue, Butt, who wrote the script, plays an unremarkable loser who gets mistaken for a hardboiled detective investigating a strange murder. Shot in Vancouver with Anchorman's David Koechner and Amy Smart, Butt says it's the most ambitious writing he's ever attempted, a dark, gritty comedy thriller about a guy in way over his head.

"The comedy is all in the writing. We didn't have to push it. I didn't want the audience to think I was Brett Butt playing one of his crazy characters, I wanted No Clue to feel as realistic as possible."

No Clue premiered at the Whistler Film Festival last December, where it received reviews good enough that he's already thinking about the next film.

"I like to tell stories and get laughs," Butt, who's 48, says. "Doing live comedy keeps me sharp because you don't know the audience until you've told them a few jokes. As soon as they laugh, I know where we're going, but until that happens, I haven't a clue.

DENIS ARMSTRONG/FOR METRO

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North Korean leader serenaded by Rodman

Basketball diplomacy. Former NBA player hopes to build connections with North Korea

Dennis Rodman sang Happy Birthday to North Korean leader Kim Jong Un before leading a squad of former NBA stars in a friendly game Wednesday as part of his "basketball diplomacy" that has been criticized in the United States as naive and laughable.

Rodman dedicated the game to his "best friend" Kim, who along with his wife and other senior officials and their wives watched from a special seating area. The capacity crowd of about 14,000 at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium clapped loudly as Rodman sang a verse from the birthday song.

Rodman said he was honoured to be able to play the game in the North Korean capital and called the event "historic." Some members of the U.S. Congress, the NBA and human rights groups, however, say he has become a public relations tool for North Korea's government.

The government's poor human rights record and its threats to use nuclear weapons against rival South Korea and the United States have kept it a pariah state. Kim shocked the world in December by having his uncle, once considered his mentor, executed after being accused of a litany of crimes including corruption, womanizing, drug abuse and attempting to seize power.

Rodman, 52, has refused to address those concerns while continuing to forge a relationship with Kim, whose age has never been officially disclosed. He is believed to be in his early 30s. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dennis Rodman sings Happy Birthday to North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, seated above in the stands, before an exhibition basketball game at an indoor stadium in Pyongyang, North Korea, on Wednesday.
KIM KWANG HYON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Solar flare. Sun delays space station supply run

A strong solar storm is interfering with the latest supply run to the International Space Station.

On the bright side, the orbiting lab has won a four-year extension, pushing its projected end-of-lifetime to at least 2024, a full decade from now.

"This is a big plus for us," said NASA's human exploration chief, Bill Gerstenmaier.

On Wednesday, Orbital Sciences Corp. delayed its space station delivery mission for the third time.

The company's unmanned rocket, the Antares, was set to blast off from Wallops Island, Virginia, with a capsule full of supplies and science experiments, including ants for an educational project. But several hours before Wednesday afternoon's planned flight, company officials took the unusual step of postponing the launch for fear solar radiation could doom the rocket.

Orbital Sciences' chief technical officer, Antonio Elias, said solar particles might interfere with electronics equipment in the rocket, and lead to a launch failure. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Tuesday image, a giant cloud of solar particles, a coronal mass ejection, explodes off the sun. The sun is obscured to show the atmosphere around it.
EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY/NASA'S SOLAR AND HELIOSPHERIC OBSERVATORY

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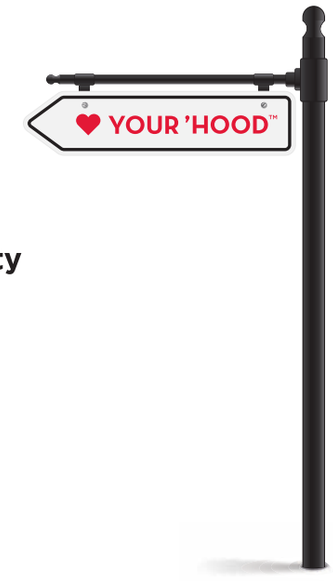

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Fatal bird flu case surfaces in Alberta

First in North America. Health officials assure public that incident was isolated, unrelated to seasonal flu and risk to public is small

Federal public health officials say a fatal human case of H5N1 bird flu has been reported in Canada, the first such case in North America.

Health Minister Rona Ambrose says the case, which was located in Alberta, was an isolated one and that the risk to the general public is small.

"The risk of getting H5N1 is very low," Ambrose told a hastily assembled news conference in Ottawa via conference call.

"This case is not part of the seasonal flu, which circulates in Canada every year."

The H5N1 strain is unrelated to the seasonal flu outbreak, Ambrose added.

Health officials say the victim had travelled to China last month and was hospitalized after returning to Alberta on Jan. 1, then died two days later.

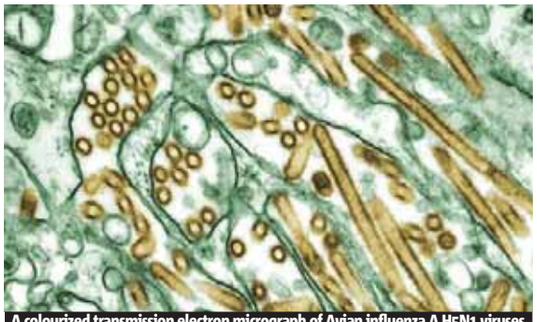
They say that while it remains unclear how the person contracted the virus, there is no evidence of human-to-human transmission.

"The health system did everything it could for this individual, and our thoughts are with the family at this time," Ambrose said.

Dr. James Talbot, Alberta's chief medical officer of health, said that family members of the victim are being monitored and treated with medication, noting that there's nothing to indicate they are sick.

"Public health has followed up with all close contacts of this individual and offered Tamiflu as a precaution," Talbot said.

"None of them have symptoms and the risk of developing symptoms is extremely low. Precautions for health-care staff were also taken as part of this individual's hospital treatment." THE CANADIAN PRESS



A colourized transmission electron micrograph of Avian influenza A H5N1 viruses (seen in gold) are shown in a 1997 image. CDC/THE CANADIAN PRESS/HANDOUT

Harper defends rail safety record in wake of N.B. derailment

Derailed train cars burn in Plaster Rock, N.B., Wednesday. A CN freight train carrying crude oil and propane derailed Tuesday night in a sparsely populated region of northwestern New Brunswick, leading to the evacuation of 150 people. It's at least the third such serious incident on North American rails since last July's deadly derailment in Lac-Mégantic, Que., that claimed 47 lives. Prime Minister Stephen Harper, speaking to reporters in Inuvik, N.W.T., Wednesday, defended his government's record on rail safety, saying the government has "vastly" increased rail safety and rail inspections. TOM BATEMAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Road safety. U.K. survey shows many men have fallen asleep at the wheel

Driving tired carries similar risks to driving drunk, but, according to a new British survey, sleeping at the wheel is common, with men being by far the worst offenders.

In the survey of 1,000 drivers, British road safety charity Brake found that 45 per cent of men admitted "microsleeps" of up to 30 seconds while driving. The figure for women was 22 per cent. A further 14 per cent of male drivers have slept for longer periods behind the wheel, while just two per cent of women had done the same.

An estimated one-in-six fatal road crashes result from tiredness. These typically involve vehicles veering off the road or a driver failing to brake.

"Men are much more likely to take risks at the wheel, such as setting off on journeys without enough sleep, or trying to push through if they feel drowsy," Ellen Booth, senior campaigns officer at Brake, told Metro. "We see this trend across the board when it comes to road safety." KIERON MONKS/METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

Florida

Police: DNA shows 2 women involved in slaying of Canadian couple

Police in Florida believe two women were involved in the killings of a Canadian couple one year ago.

David Pichosky, 71, and Rochelle Wise, 66, of Toronto were found dead by asphyxiation on Jan. 10, 2013, in their winter home. The DNA profiles of two females were found at the scene, said police Chief Dwayne Flournoy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Changes implemented

'Mistake' that let protesters get close to PM has been fixed: RCMP

The RCMP says it has identified and fixed the "mistake" that allowed two climate-change protesters to walk onto a stage within touching distance of Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

But the force isn't saying what the mistake was or what was done to prevent it from happening again. RCMP Cpl. Lucy Shorey said in a statement that changes have been implemented to ensure it doesn't happen again. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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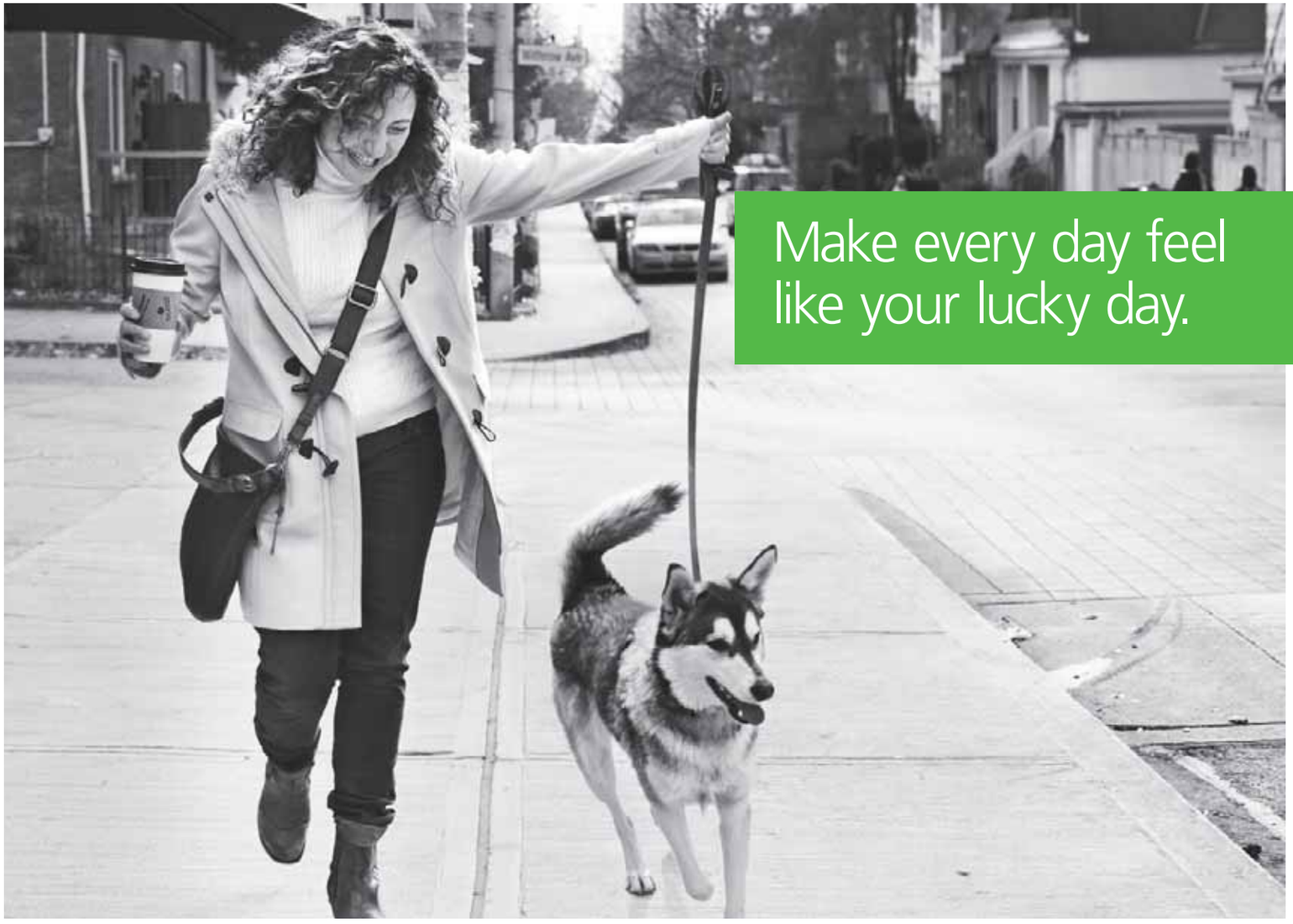

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Ontario

Senior found after snowstorm

A 70-year-old Leamington, Ont., man who disappeared during a snowstorm on Monday has been found alive.

John Friesen and his pickup truck were found Tuesday after he spent a night and much of the next day buried in a snowdrift in frigid temperatures.

Police say he was conscious but suffering from extreme cold.

CKLW/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pennsylvania

Pills on order from pizza shop

A pizza shop in Ligonier, Penn., has been delivering medicine and other supplies to ill and elderly residents so they don't have to go outside in the cold.

Tom Wynkoop, owner of Fox's Pizza Den, tells WPXI-TV he tweeted his offer because his community has a lot of elderly residents.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kosovo. Severe winter drought leaves drinking water in short supply

A boat lies stranded on the shores of the Batllava artificial lake in northern Kosovo on Wednesday. VISAR KRYEZIU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In 2013, winter brought heavy rains and flooding to Kosovo. The year before that, it was blizzards and snow drifts. Now it's a drought.

An official said Wednesday that some 400,000 people in and around Pristina, the capital, could face reduced supplies of drinking water, given a dramatic fall in the levels of the two artificial basins they get it from.

Arieta Mjeku, a spokeswoman for the regional water supply company, said strict reductions must be imposed if the winter drought continues. Mjeku said some areas are already on limited water supply.

Mid-January could bring much-needed snow, but the receding waters in the two lakes have exposed large sections of cracked, dry earth.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blind man files complaint against cab company

Rights. Saskatoon's Comfort Cabs accused of poor accommodation for service dog

Mike Simmonds with his guide dog, Graham. Simmonds has filed a human rights complaint against Comfort Cabs for not being forthcoming in their accommodation of his service animal in their vehicles.

JACOB MORGAN/METRO IN SASKATOON

After two unsuccessful mediation attempts, the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission is investigating Mike Simmonds' complaint against Comfort Cabs in Saskatoon.

Simmonds charges that on three separate occasions this past fall, the taxi service was unaccommodating of his need to have a guide dog named Graham with him at all times.

"I've had apologies, (but) an apology doesn't correct the problem," said Simmonds. "What I've been asking for from the beginning is education and awareness."

This all began at the end of September, when Simmonds called a cab and was told he would have to wait for a pet-friendly vehicle.

He reported this incident the following morning and said he was assured "that all of their taxis are guide dog and service dog friendly."

However, in November he again called for a ride to the airport and said he was met with hostility from the driver, who suggested Simmonds ask for a larger car.

While the driver accepted the fare, Simmonds said he could sense the tension, which he said he learned was due to "religious reasons."

Just a few days later, Simmonds said he was made to wait with Graham in the freezing cold one last time before he took the matter to the Human Rights Commission.

Cliff Kowbel, operations manager with Comfort Cabs, said he could not find any evidence of mistreatment.

"Nobody refused him," said Kowbel.

At one point, Kowbel said that a gift certificate to any taxi service in the city was offered to Simmonds, but the olive branch was denied.

"I don't think we're going to offer him anything in the future," said Kowbel. "We're going to dig our heels in now and see what happens."

JACOB MORGAN/METRO IN SASKATOON

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The province has appointed the Open Government Engagement Team to gather feedback from Ontarians about how government can be more open, responsive and accessible.

As a community member, you have an important voice. Please join us:

Date: Tuesday, January 14, 2014
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Location: University of Ottawa
Address: Social Sciences Building, Room 4007
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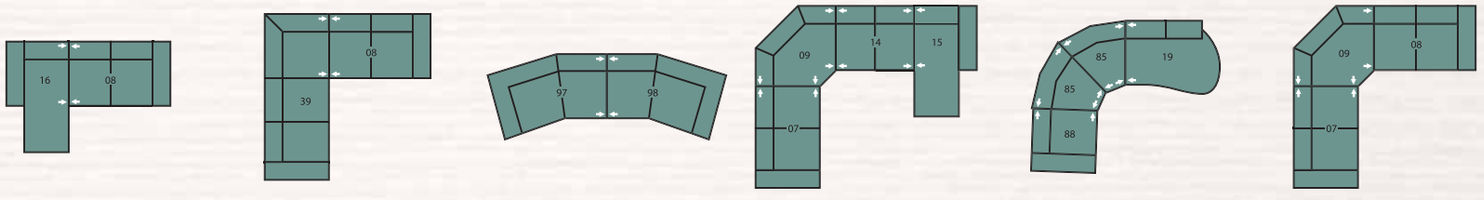

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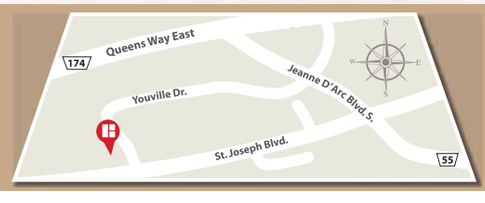

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U.S. doctors help warring South Sudanese see rivals are not 'devils'

Unique solution. Free eye surgery provided to 200 patients on condition members of rival groups sit together and talk

After receiving eye surgery from the American doctors, a South Sudanese man sat with other patients who belonged to tribes he once considered enemies. The men spoke about their newly restored vision — both their eyesight and how they now perceive members of other ethnic groups as potential friends, not sworn enemies.

South Sudan's government faces monumental challenges: To bring warring factions, often from rival ethnic groups, back toward peace after violence broke out across the country on Dec. 15.

A woman from the Dinka tribe sings and dances with members of the Nuer tribe after their sight was restored by eye surgeons from the John A. Moran Eye Center of the University of Utah, in the village of Duk Payuel in Jonglei state, South Sudan, in this photo taken in December 2012. MORAN EYE CENTER-PATRICK REDDISH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The group of American doctors had a unique approach to help heal age-old rifts between ethnic groups, but it has been put on hold because of the fighting.

A dry run they tried last year in Jonglei state, which has since become the epicentre of the clashes, was promising. They restored more than 200 patients' sight through cataract and trachoma surgery and helped break through tribal enmity.

As a condition for the free surgery, the American doctors demanded that the members of rival groups sit together and talk.

The medical group began its mission through the efforts of John Dau, a former "Lost Boy" of Sudan who fled the 1990s conflict by walking to Ethiopia and eventually finding his way to Syracuse, New York.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Seeing clearly now

"I always thought in many ways that the Dinka were devils and had horns, but they're just like us."

A patient from the Murle tribe who had his sight restored, sitting with men from the Nuer and Dinka groups.

Ethnic fault lines

Violence has split South Sudan along ethnic lines.

- Ethnic frictions have long existed but were overlooked during the civil war with Sudan that ended with a 2005 peace pact that set the stage for South Sudan becoming a nation in 2011.
- However, once independence was achieved, ethnic fault lines began shining through.
- A power struggle brewing for months between President Salva Kiir, a Dinka, and former vice-president Riek Machar, a Nuer who was fired in July, broke out into massive violence just over three weeks ago.

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Genetic code of cholera bacteria cracked

19th century.
Researchers figure out the blueprint of bacteria behind 1800s outbreak

Canadian and American scientists have mapped the genetic blueprint of the cholera bacteria responsible for a 19th-century pandemic of the disease, cracking open a veritable medical time capsule to do so.

The researchers, led by the Ancient DNA Centre at McMaster University in Hamilton, mined a postage stamp-sized piece of tissue taken from the preserved intestine of a Philadelphia man who died of cholera in 1849.

The work confirmed the suspicion that the outbreak — the second of seven cholera pandemics in history — was caused by what is known as the classical strain of the bacterium Vibrio cholera. Currently most cholera disease is triggered by another strain — El Tor — that displaced classical as the most common cause of illness in the 1960s.

An impressive feat in its own right, this type of work should help scientists chart how pathogens like cholera emerge and change.

"It's fantastic to be able to actually study the evolution of these pathogens in real time," said Hendrik Poinar, director of the Ancient DNA Centre and senior author of the paper, which is published online this week in the New England Journal of Medicine.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"Who knows what that will allow us to look at in terms of susceptibility of these pathogens to antibiotics, whether or not there's increased or decreased toxicity to humans."

Hendrik Poinar, director of the Ancient DNA Centre

On the web

For more news, go to metronews.ca

Step closer

Group pushes for pot legalization in Alaska

A citizens' group hoping to make Alaska the third state in the U.S. to legalize recreational use of marijuana took a step closer Wednesday, submitting more than 46,000 signatures to the state election office. If enough signatures are verified — they need about 30,000 qualified signatures — the question of whether to make pot legal in the U.S.' northernmost state will go before voters in the Aug. 19 primary.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

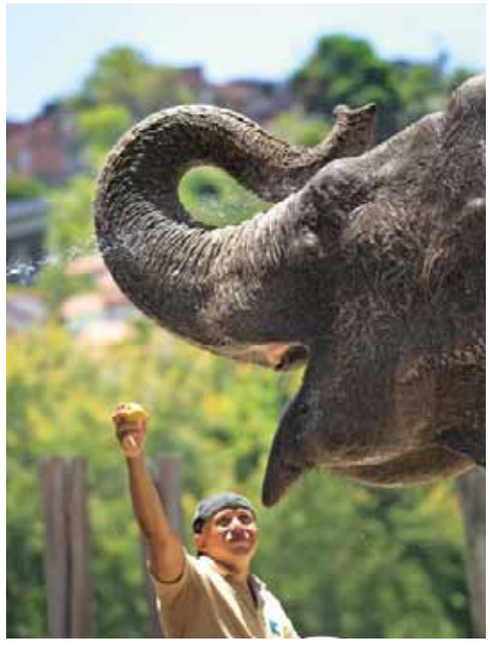
Toledo, Ohio

Plaintiffs win settlement over mug shot websites

Two Internet sites that make money by posting millions of mug shots of people who've been arrested have agreed to stop charging them to take down their photos as part of a settlement in a federal lawsuit.

The settlement in U.S. District Court in Toledo, Ohio, doesn't apply to all of the mug shot sites that can be found online, just two: BustedMugshots.com and MugshotsOnline.com.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Keeping cool in Brazil's heat

A worker cools down Koala the Elephant by spraying her with water while feeding her fruit at the city zoo in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on Wednesday. While North America has been going through a deep freeze, Brazil is sizzling, and with the heat index sometimes soaring above 48 C, keepers at the Rio de Janeiro zoo are giving the animals ice pops to beat the heat. SILVIA IZQUIERDO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Canadians are not giving Facebook many thumbs up lately. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Facebook losing Canadian fans

Thumbs down.

We are not all liking the social media network these days, survey finds

Facebook may be the world's biggest social network, and particularly popular in Canada, but there are still plenty of Canadian holdouts who refuse to join or have logged off permanently, suggests recently released research.

One in three Canadian Internet users told pollsters that they did not use Facebook in the previous month, according to a report by the Media Technology Monitor, based on telephone surveys with more than 4,000 Canadians last spring.

Of them, 14 per cent said they used to have a Facebook account but quit, 16 per cent said they're technically still a member but rarely use the site and 70 per cent said they never joined at all.

Younger non-Facebook users were more likely to have abandoned their profiles.

Poll respondents between 18 and 24 who said they weren't using Facebook were 10 times more likely to have dropped their account, rather than having never signed up in the first place.

And non-Facebook users between 25 to 33 were three times as likely to have started and stopped with the social network, rather than having never tried it.

When respondents were asked why they quit Facebook, the most common response was they didn't find the site useful, followed by privacy concerns and a lack of time to engage with the site. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

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OWN THE IRRATIONAL REACTION

HE SAYS

John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

It's almost time for the Olympics, which for many people is the only time they care about sports aside from hilarious ball-to-the-groin videos on YouTube.

That means some of you might have felt adrift this week as Canada announced its Olympic hockey team, an event that left hockey fans buzzing like my 20-year-old fridge.

Everyone likes to cheer for their country, but if you're not obsessed with hockey the rest of the time, than joining the heated conversations at home and the workplace can be tricky.

To help, I've compiled this primer for newbie Olympic hockey watchers about what they should say during the tournament to blend right in:

What to say during Olympic hockey:

The No. 1 rule to remember is that there can be no rational analysis of a world hockey tournament.

Canadian hockey history is rife with late, one-goal victories that somehow taught us that Canada is an unstoppable, dominant force in world hockey. It's also replete with shootout losses and other hard-fought defeats that taught us our national hockey program is a disaster that must be burned to the ground.

There is no middle ground, even if the outcome of the game came down to random chance.

Remember this when the games start. You might feel nervous about complicated discussions about matchups, statistics, etc., but those are just a smokescreen of facts that hide the three irrational pillars of hockey discussion: momentum, heart and clutch.

These might sound like intangible nonsense that would be impossible to measure or even ascertain, but shut up.

Wrong: "These are two evenly matched teams and there is no discernible momentum."

Right: Whichever team has most recently scored "has all the momentum."

Wrong: "It's overtime, so it's going to come down to random chance as two teams give it their all."

Right: "It's overtime, so it's going to come down to which team has the most heart."

Wrong: "I bet Sidney Crosby wins it because the highest scoring player is the player most likely to score now too."

Right: "I bet Sidney Crosby wins it because he's so clutch."

And that's how to speak like a true hockey fan.

One last lesson: If you come across a newspaper columnist or other unpatriotic liberal who questions any of these truisms, your surefire response is to say, "Clearly you've never played the game," and then walk away. With that sort of momentum, you could be a TV hockey commentator in no time.

Assuming, of course, that you're clutch.

ZOOM

Dark clouds hanging overhead

ULET IFANSASTI/GETTY IMAGES

Volcano erupts in Indonesia, again

Mount Sinabung spews pyroclastic smoke, seen from Sibintun village on Wednesday in Karo District, North Sumatra, Indonesia.

The number of displaced people has increased to 22,000 in Western Indonesia as Mount Sinabung continues to spew ash and smoke after several eruptions since September. Eleven deaths have now been recorded as a result of the eruptions, with hundreds more falling ill. Officials expect the number of evacuees to rise as volcanic activity remains high.

Sinabung had lain dormant for 400 years before a re-awakening eruption in 2010. Sinabung is one of nearly 130 active volcanoes in Indonesia that straddle key tectonic fault lines known as the Pacific Ring of Fire.

The deadliest eruption in recent years was of Mount Merapi in 2010 near the densely populated city of Yogyakarta, which killed 350 people.

GETTY IMAGES

A man wears a plastic bag to cover his head after his village was smothered by ash. GETTY IMAGES

Clickbait

HANNAH ZITNER
hannah.zitner@metronews.ca

Health, wellness and wearable tech are colliding in full force at this year's Consumer Electronic Show, with a healthy portion of products geared toward the digitally-inclined fitness diehards. Look out Fitbit and FuelBand, there are some new kids on the starting block.

CONTRIBUTED

Skulpt Aim:

Knowing how many clicks you've run and calories you've burned is just part of the health equation. Knowing the effects of your hard work is the other. Press this phone-size gadget to your freshly pumped muscles to get an instant (and accurate, they say) reading of your body composition.

Tinke:

Again, for those beyond measuring simple kms and cals, Tinke reads heart rate, blood oxygen levels and respiratory rate with just the tap of your thumb (accuracy may be questionable on this one).

Bracelets:

LG, Sony, Razer and even Intel have launched fitness tracking bracelets, all taking various metrics of your activities which connect to varying degrees with your smartphone.

Twitter

@metropicks asked: @jimmykimmel dumped snow on L.A. beach goers who bragged about the warm climate. What is a suitable penalty for bragging?

@yelpcalgary: Ha. Californians are just jealous of our awesome touques.

@ehbsea: One hour in a walk in freezer in their beach wear

@adam_rizk: A big enough star he could've had a following to Sequoia, Yosemite mountains & left them there LYAO!

@sarahmeaghang: They should have gotten "face-washes"

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:
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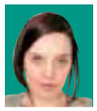
SCENE 2

Plan A: Globe-trotting rock journo Plan B: Vegan baker extraordinaire

Auntie Loo's. Much to the benefit of Ottawa, Plan B prevailed for Amanda Lunan



BACKSTAGE PASS
Jen Traplin
ottawa@metronews.ca

Baking has always been in Amanda Lunan's blood, but it wasn't until friends encouraged her to start selling her goods that she turned her hobby into a profession.

"I'm from a long line of people who like to cook and bake. When I was little, my mom stayed home with me and we did a lot of baking and there are a lot of happy memories associated with that," says Lunan, the owner of Auntie Loo's Treats.

But owning a vegan bakery wasn't always Lunan's goal.

"My plan was to be a rock journalist," she admits.

"I actually have a degree in photo journalism from Loyalist. I wanted to shoot band's album covers and tour the world and all that stuff but it didn't end up happening."

Lunan had gone vegan in 2000 and, a few years later, found herself baking at home a lot for herself and her roommates, one of whom was on the board for Ladyfest Ottawa's Not Your Grandma's Craft Sale.

He encouraged Lunan to sell her baked goods there and the results were pretty sweet.

Amanda Lunan, owner of Auntie Loo's Treats. COURTESY ALYSSA ISWOLSKY

"It was very serendipitous because the profit I made that day was the same amount as the paycheck I was going to be getting from my job at Starbucks," she says.

That was 10 years ago and, ever since, Lunan, known affectionately as Mandi Loo, has been making a living off her vegan treats.

Being a vegan baker does present some challenges though, especially when it comes to finding substitutes for different ingredients.

"It's a lot of trial and error. You can use things like apple sauce or soft tofu, flax seeds, vegetable purees to replace your eggs but you have to make sure it matches with the recipe," Lunan explains.

Of course, there is also the problem of people's perceptions of vegan food which, a lot of the time, isn't good.

Lunan says that there are a lot of negative stereotypes but that doesn't seem to be affecting her business.

"A lot of our clients aren't even vegan. People just like having great food and, for me, that's what it boils down to," she says.

"You don't have to be vegan to come here. You just have to love sweets and treats, like we do."

Details

- **Auntie Loo's Treats is located at 112 Nelson Street, Unit 101C.** You can also place an order online at auntieloostreats.ca.

Quoted

"A lot of our clients aren't even vegan — people just like having great food and, for me, that's what it boils down to."
Amanda Lunan

Laura Vandervoort plays werewolf Elena Michaels in Bitten. CONTRIBUTED

Bitten star sinks her teeth into female werewolf role

Laura Vandervoort. Actress talks about the nuances of a role traditionally reserved for men

Werewolves have been howling loudly at the spotlight in recent years through various films and TV series — Twilight, True Blood and The Mortal Instruments to name but a few.

But the sexy new supernatural thriller Bitten offers a rarely seen take on the moon monster mythology: a furry female lead.

The werewolf figure is well suited to women because both are "so affected by mother Earth and the cycles" and face societal pressures concerning image, says Laura Vandervoort, the Toronto native who stars as the four-legged fanged protagonist Elena Michaels.

"(Elena is) suppressing this animal inside of her and trying to just maintain this perfect facade, whereas her true self is in New York as this werewolf and just letting loose, and I think a lot of women have trouble being themselves," she said in a recent telephone interview.

"So it's interesting if you think about it from that perspective while watching it, that she's trying to keep this perfect image."

Vandervoort's Elena is an orphan who grew up in the foster care system in the U.S. and became a werewolf when a professor with whom she fell in love (Greyston Holt) bit her to protect her.

In the series premiere, she's working as a photographer in Toronto and trying to carry on a new life away from her wolf pack in upstate New York.

She gets sucked back into life with the pack, though, when a "random mutt" breaks the rules by killing humans for sport and her strong tracking skills are needed to catch the culprit.

Watch it

Bitten premiers Saturday at 9 p.m. ET on Space in Canada. The series is based on the New York Times bestselling Women of the Otherworld novels by Canadian Kelley Armstrong.

Co-stars include Greg Bryk as pack head Jeremy, Paul Greene as Elena's unsuspecting boyfriend Philip and Michael Xavier as Elena's therapist and fellow pack member Logan.

"It's very Sopranos, True Blood," said Vandervoort, who grew up in Toronto's North York area and is the third cousin of acting great Gordon Pinsent.

"It's an adult show and it's about the relationships and not just the fact that we're werewolves. It's the family dynamic.

"It's protecting your family at all costs. And if that means murder, as much as Elena hates who she is, you protect your pack."

The Los Angeles-based Vandervoort, who's twice made Maxim's list of Top 100 hottest women, came to the series after playing key roles on series including the Instant Star, Smallville and V.

With a second-degree black belt in Shotokan karate, she did "93 per cent" of her own stunts "except falling down the stairs."

"It's such a vast range for a female to get to play on television that I loved going to work every day and coming home and being exhausted but feeling like, 'Wow, I did that and I didn't think I was capable.'" THE CANADIAN PRESS

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If you are interested in applying for the program or would like more information, please contact Daniel Dufault at the Ontario Industrial & Finishing Skills Centre by telephone at 613-228-5222.

This Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program is funded by the Government of Ontario.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Selena Gomez ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Gomez thought to be back in Bieber's arms after devastating diagnosis

Just why are Selena Gomez and Justin Bieber back to canoodling? Sources say it's because of Gomez's recent lupus diagnosis. "Justin reached out to Selena after she cancelled the tour," a Bieber insider tells Life & Style, referring to Gomez cancelling her 2014 Stars Dance tour last month, reportedly after she got the diagnosis of the autoimmune disease. "He wanted to make sure she was OK and healthy. He cares about her a lot. I don't know if they'll get back together, but he wanted to spend time with her."

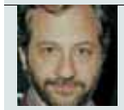
The Word

Paul's got some party haul but this one was a real thriller

Aaron Paul has been to some impressive parties, but one sticks out particularly for the Breaking Bad star. "It was the Prince of Brunei's 25th birthday party. Six years ago, outside of London," he tells Details magazine. Paul, who attended as another guest's plus-one, entertained himself by chasing sheep around the castle and breaking the Prince's hovercraft. He certainly made an impression: "I was going back up to my room, and this guy grabs me and says, 'Hey, Prince Azim wants to see you in the library,'" Paul says. "So I go down there, and he's sitting on the couch with Michael Jackson, and me and Michael Jackson end up having this hour-long heart-to-heart about family and upbringings, and I remember, he just put his arm around my shoulder and said, 'You know, if you've had a rough childhood or not, it's all about forgiveness. Once you realize that, it's fine. Everything's fine.' And I'm like, 'Michael, you are absolutely right. Do you want to do a shot?' And he goes 'Sure!'"

Twitter

@kirstiealley
When someone says "It isn't you, it's me".... It's you



@JuddApatow
How do I avoid this freaking stomach flu? I am not a big fan of multiple days of vomiting.

@MarkDuplass
Milquetoast. Great word. Underutilized.

Jake Gyllenhaal

Gyllenhaal's relationship with model 'fizzled out'

Jake Gyllenhaal has reportedly split up with model Alyssa Miller after six months of dating, according to Us Weekly. "They fizzled out. It happened a while back — before the holidays. He's back on the scene," a source says. "Things were really good between Jake and Alyssa right up until he had to leave for L.A. to shoot a movie in the fall. Then the distance just really got to them." Reps for Gyllenhaal and Miller did not respond to requests for comment.

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Every sharp shopper has a calendar in the closet

Seasonal secrets. Style expert Lilliana Vazquez shares tips on mapping out your 2014 shopping plan

ANDREA PARK
Metro World News

There is a right time and a wrong time to buy those shoes you've been eyeing, and even if you made a New Year's resolution to save money in 2014, that doesn't mean you have to sacrifice style. Lilliana Vazquez, style expert and author of The Cheap Chica's Guide to Style, shares her tips on planning a shopping schedule for the year and how you can save money on hot wardrobe staples with just a bit of good timing.

January

Winter coats and accessories
This frosty month is the perfect time to buy warm winter goods. "Whether it's a brand new coat, hats, scarves, gloves, boots or ski stuff, items get really marked down in January but in a city like New York, we'll probably still be wearing these until April," says Vazquez.

Formal wear
"Anyone who was selling New Year's and holiday party stuff still has a lot of merchandise, so this is the best time of the year to buy a cocktail dress," says Vazquez. She added that it's an especially great time to save on anything sparkly or beaded.

February

Spring items
Believe it or not, February is a great month to buy spring items. Vazquez says though this is when stores get their first shipments of spring clothes, retailers will mark them down if no one is buying. "You can get new stuff marked down if it's really cold out," Vazquez says.

Winter clearance
If you still need winter clothes, this is when winter gear is on final mark down. The merchandise will already be picked over, but it will be at its cheapest.

March and April

Shoes
Get a head start on summer shoe shopping in March and April, when the selection is the largest. Stores will offer some early markdowns, and those sandals you've had your eye on may be gone by May.

Fitness gear
"A lot of (sneakers and fitness items) come in for the New Year's resolutions of people who say they're going to work out and then never do, so if you're a runner or gearing up for the summer, it's a great time to buy sneakers and fitness fashion items," says Vazquez. She added that this is when Lululemon fans can buy their favourite brand on deep discount.

May

Secondhand items
May is a big month for spring cleaning, which means that lots of people are getting rid of their clothes and accessories, and one man's trash is another man's treasure, right? "A lot of people are cleaning out, so it's a good time to deal hunt in your neighbourhood," says Vazquez. "You can get vintage stuff and great shoes because they're making room in their closets for all new things."

Lilliana Vazquez, author of The Cheap Chica's Guide to Style. GETTY IMAGES

June and July

Summer items
Fall items will be trickling into stores by now, which means you can find great deals on summer clothes and accessories. "You can get stuff you can get a lot of use out of, like shorts, rompers and sundresses — things that feel seasonal," says Vazquez.

Swimsuits
Stores will still carry plenty of swimsuits, but they'll be marked down by June and July. "You'll still wear them for another two or three months," pointed out Vazquez.

Leap on that LBD ASAP!

"Anyone who was selling New Year's and holiday party stuff still has a lot of merchandise, so this is the best time of the year to buy a cocktail dress."
Lilliana Vazquez

Thinking ahead

- **Summer's end** Vazquez called this "back-to-school summer leftover time." Inventory will be a mixed bag of summer odds and ends without much size availability, but this is when you can get the best deals on summer clearance items. Plus, you'll find discounts on new inventory during back-to-school and Labour Day promotions.
- **Baby, it's cold outside** November is a big shopping month with Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Vazquez says this is when she saves up for her big, pricey purchases like cashmere sweaters. "These deals I only splurge on once a year because I can wear them for a long time, so it's a great value proposition for my closet," she says.

December's diamonds
Vazquez says that December is the last chance for retailers to grab customers for their year-end earnings reports, which means holiday sales abound. This is an especially good time to get "no size" gifts like hats, bags, gloves and scarves for friends and family.

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Q: MY DAUGHTER WHO IS 13 WOULD LIKE NEW CLOTHES BUT THE TREND SEEMS TO BE PRINTS AND PATTERNS. DO YOU HAVE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SHOPPING WISELY WITH THESE NEW TRENDS IN ORDER TO COMPILE LASTING ARTICLES IN HER WARDROBE? - K.N.

A: Fashion is fun and important at any age, but it is also key to not blow the bank on items that will be here one minute and gone the next. A good way to incorporate trends into your teen's wardrobe, (and even your own) is to buy quality basics and mix in less expensive trendier items. It is better to splurge on quality jackets, and pants and throw a few fun printed t-shirts in the mix. Head over to H&M for some stylish and affordable looks!

Q: I'M LOOKING TO BUY A RING FOR MY GIRLFRIEND OF 3 YEARS AS A SURPRISE FOR AN ENGAGEMENT IN FEBRUARY. CAN YOU GIVE ANY SUGGESTIONS ABOUT WHAT TYPE OF RINGS ARE IN STYLE? - J.C.

A: One of the most popular rings of 2014 will be the Halo engagement ring. Simple, elegant, and heavy on the sparkle! A Halo style ring is a fairly simple style with a center diamond, but what makes it special, and gives it the Halo name, is the diamond band and the circle of diamonds surrounding the center stone. The benefit of this style is the added brilliance to the ring, and the illusion of a larger diamond. Visit Michael Hill for some gorgeous options – after all, the only better than diamonds is more diamonds!

Q: MY WIFE'S 30TH BIRTHDAY IS COMING UP THIS YEAR AND SHE IS VERY FASHIONABLE. DO YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR A PRESENT THAT IS THE "IT" ITEM OF THE YEAR? SHE REALLY LIKES BAGS AND ACCESSORIES. - T.C.

A: Women love their purses and there are some exciting options available for Spring/Summer 2014! This season it is less about the size and shape of the bag, and more about colour and print. Radiant orchid is the hot colour, and while animal prints are still here, the difference is now you should be looking for actual animal image – not just their stripes or spots. Go for a bag that has a bird, a tiger or even a Rottweiler! For other "it" items, try Sunglass Hut for the latest shades, or Watch It! for the hottest new Michael Kors watch!

Angie
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Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Lexi

Age: 27

Occupation: Special event coordinator

What she's wearing
Gift of Love knit scarf, vintage Bridge and Bardot plaid shirt, Zara blouse, American Apparel tights, Jeffrey Campbell booties.

Her inspiration
"I have always gravitated toward bohemian-style clothing. However, the truth is the majority of my closet is from vintage thrift stores. I love digging for old classic pieces that tell stories and bring a little 'umph' to the outfit. I am also a huge fan of comfort and free frolicking. Therefore, if I can't bend and snap in a piece of clothing, I will not buy."

THE KIT IS A MULTI-PLATFORM BEAUTY AND FASHION BRAND WHICH INCLUDES AN INTERACTIVE MAGAZINE AND DYNAMIC APP, A WEBSITE, KIT CHAT — AN E-NEWSLETTER PROGRAM — AND A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER SECTION TOO!

Trends Report

Colour authority Pantone has named Radiant Orchid the colour of the year. Some in the fashion industry love this deep pinky purple hue but it's also got its critics. Go online to Trends Report and check out my Radiant Orchid fashion finds. Are you hot or cold for this colour?

- **Online.** Follow Irene on Twitter at @MetroIreneK or Instagram: kuanirene; metronews.ca/voices/trends-report

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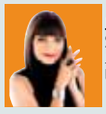

JEANNE SPACE
Jeanne Beker
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TWITTER HAS BECOME A COOL AND SUCCINCT WAY OF COMMUNICATING. IT ALLOWS ME TO BE ACCESSIBLE, INSTANTLY SPEAK MY MIND AND CONNECTS ME WITH ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE. WHETHER IT'S A FASHION QUESTION OR YOU JUST WANT TO COMMENT ON LIFE'S BIGGER PICTURE, I'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

OMG! A little late for #TBT but look at this pic my sister just me: Moi, circa early '70s

Here's one more for #FlashbackFriday My mom made me this "jungle print" jumpsuit circa 1968 pic

No Doubt about it. Stefani is back in the style game

Gwen Stefani. GETTY IMAGES

You fell in love with Gwen Stefani when she first burst on the scene as the front woman for No Doubt in her cropped tops and slouchy, sporty pants. Now, the pop star and fashion maven is bringing her tomboy appeal to a boutique near you. According to Women's Wear Daily, Stefani teamed up with denim vet Michael Glasser (he launched Seven For All Mankind) to create DWP, a laid-back line that focuses on pants.

The pair initially wanted to start a sustainable denim label but switched direction after research showed how saturated the denim market was.

"So we flipped it to Design With Purpose because the purpose of this line is to start defining an exciting area like we did with the jeans," Glasser said in the story.

DWP will launch in the spring with 18 items, including crop tops and a dress, but their hip-yet-relaxed pants, made with Tencel — a biodegradable material that's super-soft and drapes really well — is their pièce de résistance.

"This is about trying to find that piece that is super-wearable but you still feel cool in," said Stefani.

And after stuffing our faces and overindulging this holiday season, a comfy, cool pair of pants sounds perfect.

METRO

Big, bold design trends for the new year

This year brings big changes on the home decor front. We'll say goodbye to espresso wood and cool grey colours while welcoming lighter woods, warmer walls and coloured, artful rugs. These trends will hold strong for a few years, so keep them in mind for future decorating projects. Here are four key ones worth investing in over the next year and beyond.

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Lighter wood tones

Goodbye dark espresso wood tones and hello lighter, natural oak. No, not the honey-golden oak from the '80s: think grainy, raw oak with a simple coat of wax. Pagan's Dance brushed, engineered wide plank flooring, $13.75 per square foot, kentwoodfloors.com.

Warmer paint colours

The new neutral is platinum. Think grey with a dollop of brown to warm it up. Looks great with almost every other colour. Escarpment CC-518, benjaminmoore.ca.

Bolder, artful rugs

Go bold or don't bring it home. Art and rugs are going big and bold. It's time to wake up our spaces, so think of colourful rugs as artwork for the floor. Kashmir 8x10 orange wool rug, $363, ecarpetgallery.com.

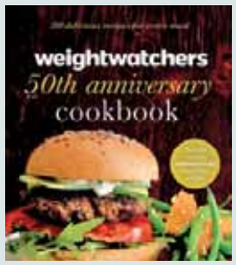
Golden metal finishes

Metal tones are warming up, so go with polished gold for a luxe vibe or tarnished brass for a casual, industrial look. Graham Table Lamp, $338, crateandbarrel.ca.

Southern classic, without the fat

Cookbook of the Week

Get excited about eating healthy



Weight Watchers cookbooks are trusted by anyone who is excited about cooking delicious, healthy food.

This latest offering serves up more than 280 favourites that have been updated, and features fresh ingredients, how-to tips, Weight Watchers lore, and nutritional info and PointsPlus values for the newest program, Weight Watchers 360°.

Among the dishes included are Cajun Catfish, Cheese Puffs, Lamb Kebobs and more. **METRO**

"Pork chops in onion sauce is a Southern classic, but often it is swimming in too much fat," write the Weight Watchers folks in the book Weight Watchers 50th Anniversary Cookbook of this Skillet Pork Chops with Onion Gravy recipe.

"We gave the dish a healthy makeover that retains all the great flavour but with a mere one teaspoon of oil. Think of it as comfort food that you can really feel comfortable with!"

1. Sprinkle the chops with the salt and pepper. Heat a large nonstick skillet over medium heat. Swirl in the oil, add the chops and cook, turning occasionally, until browned, about 5 minutes. Transfer to a plate.

2. Add the onions, 1/4 cup of the broth, and the garlic to the skillet. Bring to a boil. Reduce the heat and simmer, covered, stirring occasionally, until the onions are very tender, 12–15 minutes.

3. Sprinkle the onions with the flour; cook, stirring constantly, 1 minute. Add the remaining 1 cup broth, mustard, and thyme. Bring to a boil, stirring until the sauce bubbles and thickens. Return the chops and any accumulated juices to the skillet. Reduce the heat and simmer, uncovered, until the chops are heated through, 2–3 minutes.

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Ingredients

- 4 (6-oz) bone-in porkloin chops, trimmed
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp ground pepper
- 1 tsp olive oil
- 2 sweet onions, thinly sliced
- 1 1/4 cups reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 tsp all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp whole-grain Dijon mustard
- 1 tbsp chopped fresh thyme

This recipe serves six. One chop with 1/4 cup sauce contains 253 calories and 11 grams total fat.

Manuel Osborne-Paradis will anchor Canada's men's alpine team in Sochi. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sochi Games won't be their first rodeo

Canadian Cowboys. Veteran skiers Hudec, Osborne-Paradis, Guay back in Olympic saddle after fixing 'all the bugs and the kinks'

Canadian skier Manuel Osborne-Paradis learned how it felt to compete on the sport's biggest stage during his Olympic debut in Turin eight years ago.

He learned about pressure and expectations at the 2010 Games in his hometown of Vancouver.

His next mission is to build on that experience at his next Olympic appearance in Sochi, where he plans to ride the momentum from the team's strong start to the season.

"In Vancouver there was a lot of prep but not very directed prep," he said Wednesday. "I think this year we've really fixed all the bugs and the kinks that we felt in Vancouver. Obviously there's not as much pressure, not being in Canada and being as far away (from) Canada as pretty much possible.

"I think the nerves are a lot more settled and hopefully we're able to direct the energy down the hill and not towards the media."

The veteran skier will anchor the men's alpine team at the Games along with Erik Guay of Mont-Tremblant, Que., and Calgary's Jan Hudec. The three "Canadian Cowboys" were officially nominated to the Sochi 2014 Olympic team Wednesday.

Some of their teammates still have a chance to join them in Sochi. The qualification window is open until Jan. 26 and the roster is expected to be finalized the next day.

Guay had the top Canadian result at the Vancouver Games, finishing fifth in the downhill and the super-G. Osborne-Paradis was 17th in the downhill and didn't finish the super-G, while Hudec didn't crack the top 20 in either discipline.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

'The right decision'

Vonn praised for skipping Olympics

The head coach of the U.S. women's ski team has praised Lindsey Vonn for making the "very hard decision" of skipping the Sochi Olympics in February because of her injured right knee.

"There was too much risk and she realized that and made the right decision," Alex Hoedlmoser said. "It was a very smart decision from her to actually do this step now."

Vonn announced Tuesday she would miss the Olympics after "the reality has sunk in that my knee is just too unstable to compete at this level."

The 2010 Olympic downhill champion underwent surgery to reconstruct two knee ligaments following a crash 11 months ago. The 29-year-old American tore one of those ligaments again in November then hurt her knee again in December. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UCI

Independent panel looking into doping allegations

A three-man independent panel will investigate cycling's doping past, including allegations the sport's governing body colluded with Lance Armstrong.

UCI president Brian Cookson said Wednesday the commission will investigate allegations "that the UCI has been involved in wrongdoing in the past — allegations which have done so much to hurt the credibility of the UCI and our sport."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Maddux, Glavine, Thomas elected into Hall of Fame

Frank Thomas at a news conference on Wednesday in Chicago for his selection into the baseball Hall Of Fame. CHARLES REX ARBOGAST/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A new generation of starting pitchers and a self-proclaimed Mr. Clean of the Steroids Era will be ushered into baseball's Hall of Fame this summer. For tainted players, however, the doors to Cooperstown remain bolted.

Greg Maddux, Tom Glavine and Frank Thomas were elected on their first ballot appearances Wednesday, while Craig Biggio fell just two votes short.

Maddux and Glavine will join their former Atlanta Braves manager, Bobby Cox, at the July 27 induction along with Joe Torre and Tony La Russa, also elected last month by the expansion-era committee.

But Barry Bonds, Roger Clemens and other stars whose accomplishments were muddied by accusations of steroids use lost even more ground, dropping below 40 per cent in an election where 75 per cent is needed.

And on his first day as a member of baseball's elite, Thomas said the living members among the 306 Hall of Famers don't want those with sullied reputations.

"Over the last year, doing a couple of charity events with Hall of Famers that are in, they've got a strong stance against anyone who's taken steroids," he said.

"There shouldn't be cheating allowed to get into the Hall of Fame." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Getting thumbs up

97.2%

Greg Maddux was picked on 555 of 571 ballots. His 97.2 percentage was the eighth-highest in the history of voting.

The Canadian class of college standouts

UNLV's Anthony Bennett last summer became the first Canadian player to be selected No. 1 overall in the NBA draft. A tough act to follow, but here are six (well, seven if you count a set of teammates) of today's top U.S. college basketball players from north of the border. There is at least one from each class, including the consensus No. 1 recruit last summer, a towering centre and a guard who has already been to the NCAA Final Four:

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Andrew Wiggins, Kansas

The six-foot-eight swingman is the top freshman scorer in the Big 12, pacing the 18th-ranked Jayhawks with nearly 16 points a game. Wiggins was only the second freshman ever to be named a pre-season AP All-American. With him, Kansas is a top contender for its 10th consecutive Big 12 title.

Jordan Bachynski, Arizona State

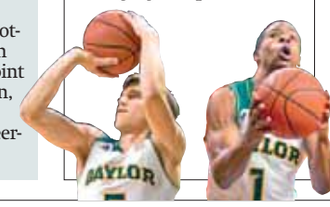
The seven-foot-two senior centre is the national leader with 4.9 blocks per game — his 74 are more than 298 NCAA Division I teams have altogether going into this week's games. He also averages 12.1 points and 9.3 rebounds a game. At 24, he is the oldest player on the Sun Devils roster, and wears No. 13 in honour of Canadian Steve Nash.

Olivier Hanlan, Boston College

The sophomore guard, one of three active ACC players from Canada, is second in that league with 19.9 points a game. The six-foot-four guard can score with anybody, with four 25-point games already this season, and is 34 points from becoming the ACC's career-leading Canadian scorer.

Brady Heslip and Kenny Chery, Baylor

Heslip, a member of Canada's national team, is the Big 12's top three-point shooter (39 of 79). Chery is a junior college transfer who stepped in as the starting PG after Pierre Jackson led the Bears to an NCAA regional final and NIT championship. The guard is averaging 11.2 points.



Nik Stauskas, Michigan

After averaging 11 points as a freshman starter last season when the Wolverines went to the NCAA championship game, Stauskas is fourth in the Big 10 in scoring this season with 17.8 points a game and fourth with 3.6 assists a game. He is a lethal three-point shooter.

Kevin Pangos, Gonzaga

Yet another sharp shooter from up north, Pangos is the West Coast Conference's leading three-point shooter at 48 per cent (49 of 102). The junior guard for the No. 22 Bulldogs is fourth in the WCC in scoring (17.4 ppg), and ninth in assists (4.1) and steals (1.3).

NFL

Hernandez linked to unsolved 2012 homicide in warrant

Police believe former New England Patriot Aaron Hernandez was in an SUV when someone inside shot two people to death in Boston in 2012, according to a search warrant filed in Connecticut.

The warrant does not indicate who investigators believe pulled the trigger nor suggests a motive in the shooting of Daniel Jorge Correia de Abreu and Safiro Teixeira Furtado. No charges have been filed in the case. An attorney for Hernandez did not immediately respond to a message seeking comment Wednesday.

Hernandez came under scrutiny in the shooting following his arrest in the slaying of Odin Lloyd, whose body was found June 17 near Hernandez's North Attleborough, Mass., home. Hernandez has pleaded not guilty to murder in that case.

In searching the home of Hernandez's uncle in Bristol, Conn., in June, police found the SUV wanted in the 2012 shooting in Boston. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL. Newton not satisfied with individual accolades

Cam Newton doesn't like being compared to Colin Kaepernick.

"Two different players," Newton said.

Yet the Panthers' third-year quarterback certainly understands the parallels with his 49ers counterpart. They both entered the NFL in 2011. They're both big, strong-armed guys who can shred a secondary with their arms and terrorize a front seven with their feet.

"Being a big guy, being fast and being agile and having the art of throwing like only God has blessed a few people with — and Kaepernick has it (too)," Newton said.

Newton and Kaepernick go head-to-head Sunday with a trip to the NFC championship on the line.

Carolina beat San Francisco 10-9 in a defensive struggle Nov. 10, a game in which neither QB played particularly well.

"We didn't execute the way we should have and I didn't play well," Kaepernick said of the game where he was sacked six times.

Newton and Kaepernick shared a room at the scouting combine in Indianapolis ahead of the 2011 draft but barely had a chance to interact. Newton was drafted first overall by the Panthers, while Kaepernick fell to the 49ers at 36th overall.

Carolina quarterback Cam Newton
GETTY IMAGES

Kaepernick was the first to get his team to the Super Bowl, leading the 49ers there last year before losing to Baltimore.

Newton was just 13-19 in his first two seasons as a starter in Carolina. But the Panthers have turned things around this season, capturing the NFC South and securing a first-round bye.

Along the way, Newton was selected to the Pro Bowl.

But that means little to Newton. In his eyes there's only one goal at the end of this season: Bringing home Carolina's first Super Bowl.

"Nothing is worth mentioning unless we have something that we can all share with each other for years and years to come," Newton said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Boston	43	28	13	2	126	94	58
Tampa Bay	43	26	13	4	123	102	56
Montreal	44	25	14	5	114	103	55
Detroit	43	19	14	10	114	121	48
Toronto	44	21	18	5	122	132	47
Ottawa	44	19	18	7	126	141	45
Florida	43	16	21	6	102	136	38
Buffalo	42	12	26	4	74	118	28

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	45	32	12	1	147	107	65
Philadelphia	43	22	17	4	114	118	48
Washington	42	20	16	6	128	128	46
Carolina	43	18	16	9	105	124	45
N.Y. Rangers	44	21	20	3	108	119	45
New Jersey	44	17	18	9	103	113	43
Columbus	43	19	20	4	117	126	42
N.Y. Islanders	45	16	22	7	124	149	39

Wednesday's results
Montreal at Philadelphia
N.Y. Rangers at Chicago
Ottawa at Colorado
Tuesday's results
Anaheim 5 Boston 2
Minnesota 2 Los Angeles 1 (SO)
Nashville 3 San Jose 2
N.Y. Islanders 5 Toronto 3
Philadelphia 3 New Jersey 2 (OT)
Phoenix 6 Calgary 0
Pittsburgh 5 Vancouver 4 (SO)
St. Louis 5 Edmonton 2
Tampa Bay 4 Winnipeg 2
Carolina at Buffalo (ppd., storm)
Thursday's games — All Times Eastern
Dallas at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Florida at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Washington at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
Anaheim at Nashville, 8 p.m.
St. Louis at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Minnesota at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Boston at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Detroit at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Friday's games
Dallas at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Washington, 7 p.m.
Carolina at Columbus, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Edmonton, 10 p.m.
St. Louis at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Chicago	45	29	7	9	167	124	67
St. Louis	42	30	7	5	155	97	65
Colorado	42	26	12	4	123	108	56
Minnesota	45	23	17	5	108	114	51
Dallas	42	20	15	7	123	131	47
Nashville	44	19	19	6	105	131	44
Winnipeg	46	19	22	5	125	139	43

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Anaheim	45	32	8	5	151	113	69
San Jose	44	27	11	6	144	114	60
Los Angeles	44	26	13	5	114	91	57
Vancouver	45	23	13	9	121	113	55
Phoenix	42	21	12	9	129	127	51
Calgary	43	15	22	6	100	137	36
Edmonton	46	14	27	5	119	161	33

Note: Two points awarded for a win, one point for an overtime or shootout loss.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	Pt
Crosby, Pgh	24	41	65
Kane, Chi	23	31	54
Tavares, NYI	20	34	54
Getzlaf, Ana	20	29	49
Kunitz, Pgh	23	25	48
Thornton, SJ	5	43	48
Sharp, Chi	25	21	46
Perry, Ana	24	22	46
Backstrom, Wash	10	36	46
Malkin, Pgh	12	33	45
Toews, Chi	15	29	44
Ovechkin, Wash	31	12	43
Okposo, NYI	17	26	43
Marleau, SJ	20	22	42
Keith, Chi	3	39	42
Seguin, Dal	21	20	41

Not including last night's games

NFL PLAYOFFS

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

Saturday's games — All Times Eastern
NFC — New Orleans at Seattle, 4:35 p.m.
AFC — Indianapolis at New England, 8:15 p.m.
Sunday's games
NFC — San Francisco at Carolina, 1:05 p.m.
AFC — San Diego at Denver, 4:40 p.m.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Indiana	28	6	.824	—
d-Miami	27	8	.771	1½
Atlanta	18	17	.514	10½
d-Toronto	16	17	.485	11½
Washington	15	17	.469	12
Chicago	15	18	.455	12½
Charlotte	15	21	.417	14
Detroit	14	21	.400	14½
Brooklyn	13	21	.382	15
Boston	13	22	.371	15½
New York	12	22	.353	16
Cleveland	12	23	.343	16½
Philadelphia	12	23	.343	16½
Orlando	10	24	.294	18
Milwaukee	7	27	.206	21

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Oklahoma City	27	8	.771	—
d-San Antonio	27	8	.771	—
Portland	26	9	.743	1
d-Golden State	24	13	.649	4
L.A. Clippers	24	13	.649	4
Houston	22	13	.629	5
Phoenix	20	13	.606	6
Dallas	20	15	.571	7
Denver	17	17	.500	9½
Minnesota	17	17	.500	9½
New Orleans	15	18	.455	11
Memphis	15	19	.441	11½
L.A. Lakers	14	21	.400	13
Sacramento	11	22	.333	15
Utah	12	25	.324	16

d — division leaders ranked in top four positions.

Wednesday's results
Detroit at Toronto
Dallas at San Antonio
Golden State at Brooklyn
Indiana at Atlanta
Washington at New Orleans
L.A. Lakers at Houston
Phoenix at Minnesota
Orlando at Portland
Boston at L.A. Clippers
Tuesday's late results
Indiana 86 Toronto 79
Denver 129 Boston 98
Miami 107 New Orleans 88
Sacramento 123 Portland 119
San Antonio 110 Memphis 108 (OT)
Utah 112 Oklahoma City 101
Thursday's games — All Times Eastern
Miami at New York, 8 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Denver, 10:30 p.m.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You will gain more by doing less today. Cut back on your workload or get friends to help you out. Better still, do both. There's no cosmic law that says you have to do anything at all.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You will be inspired to give your best over the next 24 hours. Hold on to that positive, can-do attitude as long as you can — ideally until the moon is full seven days from now.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Today you will know what is right and wrong, and which course of action you should be taking. If you choose not to take it, the consequences may not be to your liking.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
If someone whose judgment you trust urges you to really go for it today, you must act immediately. Too often in the past you have been too careful and missed out — now go to the other extreme and throw caution to the wind.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
It's a good day romance and if anyone is of the opinion that you lack passion, they will soon see the error of their ways. When a Leo gets fired up, the heat is enough to melt the coldest of hearts.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You are enamored more by things than you are by people at the moment. There's nothing wrong with that but take care that your material desires don't detract from your relationships.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
If you think all things are possible, you're right. But why make a battle of it when you have the charm to get what you want without a struggle? Or is that what you enjoy?

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Let others know what you are willing to put up with and what will happen if they push their luck too far. There are times to be tactful but this isn't one of them. Be bold and, if necessary, be brutal too.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Don't stay indoors and hide away. Get out into the world and show everyone what star quality looks like. You were born to be larger than life, so why are you peeking out from behind the curtains?

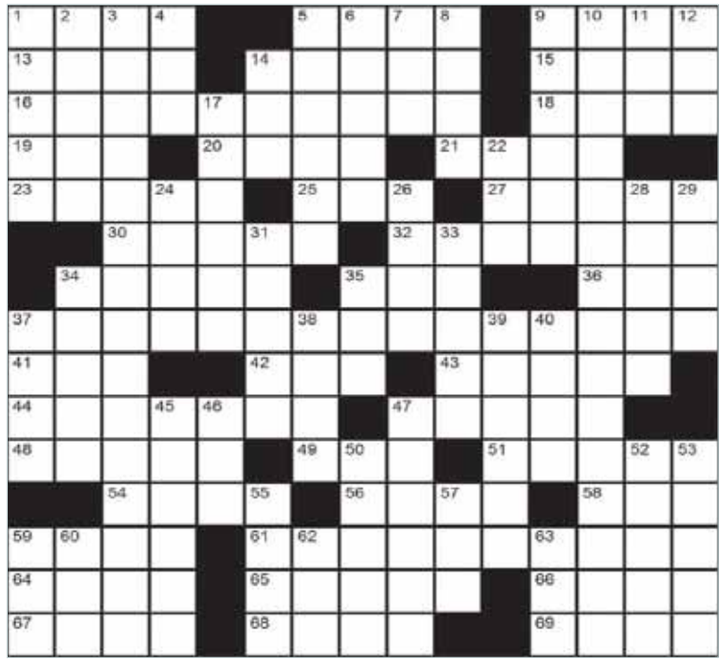
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
If you've fallen out with someone, it is the time to make up. That applies to all kinds of relationships but mainly to those of a personal nature.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You may think you can do as you please at the moment but you are kidding yourself and today's events will bring that fact home to you sharply. There are forces operating behind the scenes that limit your options.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
If someone wants to make a nuisance of themselves, let them. Most likely, they are hoping you will overreact. Treat them with the contempt they deserve — ignore them completely. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

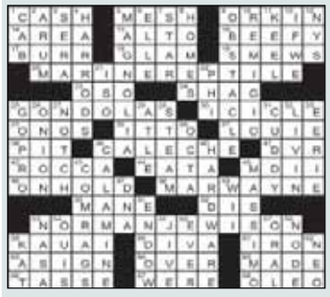
See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. ...seis, siete, __...
5. Margaret Mitchell's epic book of '36
9. Rabbit-style tail
13. Scorch
14. Medieval thigh armour, variantly
15. #5-Across home
16. It's currently underway in Russia: 2 wds.
18. AD = __ Domini
19. Oxygen
20. Robert Burns' 'old'
21. Money obligation
23. Mythological tree nymph
25. Type of rally
27. Get cut, do this
30. American poet Sylvia
32. Port __, BC
34. Russian river
35. Orlando's li'l state
36. Implore
37. Cultural attractions in Ottawa: 2 wds.
41. Meal scrap
42. '90s album: 'A Boy Named __'
43. Grocery section
44. Canadian actress Wendy
47. Outrageous interest rate
48. North or South country
49. Practically forever
51. Canadian measurement
54. Soaks flax
56. Bon Jovi's Mr. Torres
58. "Take on Me" band
59. Vancouver-born broadcaster, __-Yin Lee
61. Billboard toppers: 2 wds.
64. Pottery-firing furnace
65. Classic theatre
66. Give out
67. __ _'Orleans, Quebec
68. Get a paycheck
69. Ptolemy's pursuit, puny-ly

Down
1. Group of eight
2. Church singing group
3. It put Daniel Radcliffe on the map: 3 wds.
4. Legendary monster
5. 'G' of Ontario's U of G
6. Actress Olivia
7. Airport screening org.
8. Colin James' "__ You Lie"
9. Horsie's house
10. Chaucer's creation: 2 wds.
11. Vase
12. Philosophical principle
14. French vineyard
17. Attempted: 3 wds.
22. Shrink
24. U2's "__ _ Want Is You"
26. Warm climate tree
28. "__ of the State" (1998)
29. Makes ground holes
31. Sylvester Stallone/Kurt Russell movie, "__ & Cash" (1989)
33. Hails
34. Writer of ancient Rome, Marcus Terentius __
35. "And __, she don't know...": Bit of The Supremes' "Back in My Arms Again"
37. Arrow-to-bow-string groove
38. Five-star
39. Pink-fleshed fish, en francais
40. Emerald land
45. 'Kiss Land': Album by Canadian artist The __
46. Took a chair
47. Early Celine Dion song
50. CC-138 Twin __ (Search and Rescue aircraft of the RCAF)
52. #5-Across' leading man
53. Facilitator
55. Cobbler's fixed thing
57. NFL's Bengals, on scoreboards
59. Do alpine-ing
60. Pantry product
62. Ms. Lupino
63. "Today" rival, commonly

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

2		6	8		3	4		9
		9	2		5	7		
	7						6	
			5		7			
5								8
			3		2			
	9						3	
		3	6		4	8		
8		7	1		9	5		6

Yesterday's Sudoku

2	3	9	1	7	6	5	4	8
1	7	4	5	3	8	6	9	2
5	8	6	4	9	2	1	3	7
8	9	7	6	2	4	3	5	1
4	6	2	3	5	1	8	7	9
3	1	5	9	8	7	2	6	4
7	2	3	8	4	5	9	1	6
6	5	8	7	1	9	4	2	3
9	4	1	2	6	3	7	8	5

Today -12°/-14° Sunny
Friday -1°/-2° Partly sunny
Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.
TWN incorporates MSC data

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